

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHAT: 3rd Annual Phoenix Experimental Arts Festival
WHERE: Center for the Performing Arts at PVCC
WHEN: Friday, February 8, 2008 & Saturday, February 9, 2008
Lobby/Gallery opens at 6:00pm
Lobby/Gallery performances begin at 6:30pm
Box Office opens at 6:30pm
Mainstage performances begin at 7:30pm

WEB: www.phoenixXfestival.com

ADMISSION: \$15 general admission for each night. \$25 festival pass for both nights.

BOX OFFICE PHONE: 602-787-7738

BOX OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday thru Friday, 12pm to 5pm, and one hour prior to curtain.

FESTIVAL DESCRIPTION:

PHOENIX, AZ (January 5, 2008) -- Dr. Christopher Scinto, chair for the Performing and Fine Arts Division at Paradise Valley Community College, has announced a third year to showcase the edgier, avant-garde artists who are pushing the boundaries in the visual and performing arts in Phoenix. The PHOENIX EXPERIMENTAL ARTS FESTIVAL, co-sponsored by the Phoenix New Times, will be presented February 8th and 9th, 2008, at Paradise Valley Community College's Center for the Performing Arts in North Phoenix. This year's festival includes the work of several local and regional dance troupes, music ensembles, performance art collectives, theatre companies and visual artists. The lobby/gallery opens at 6:00 p.m. with lobby/gallery performances at 6:30p.m. and main stage performances at 7:30 p.m.

Highlights of the performances on Friday, February 8th include two performances by experimental chamber music ensemble CROSSING 32ND STREET, who will present Michael Gordon's percussion solo *XY* and also perform live music in collaboration with CONDER/dance on *Moving Target*. Newly formed performance art collective OFFICE OF PECULIAR SCENES will present an interesting take on an overly commercial beauty pageant in *Miss Representation*. Next, performance artist/actress KRISTEN LOREE will perform a selection from her one-woman theater piece, *VIXIN*, which she describes as a work of queer theater to be spoken and sung in 8-inch heels, in a red dress, and with a giant red high heel shoe/chair. The evening continues with two inspiring dance works that incorporate video projection and interactive video technology in works performed by VIA CORPO DANCE RESEARCH and ARMADILLO DANCE PROJECT.

THEATRE IN MY BASEMENT kicks off Saturday's performance with *(dis)solve*, an interdisciplinary performance work using a live media as a laboratory for dehydration. Using the idea of metaphorical drying out, *(dis)solve* mixes video and sound for an interactive performance. CROSSING 32ND STREET returns to the stage to perform the world premiere of Phoenix-composer Eric Schultz's *Everything is at once transgressed, overtaken, and nothing did yet arrive*, a work based on the paintings of French artist Jean Miotte for video and three percussionists. Then dance companies 32 FLAVORS, KAREN SCHUPP DANCE, and MARY FITZGERALD DANCE round out the evening presenting new works of contemporary dance.

Both nights of the Phoenix Experimental Arts Festival conclude with performances of the avant-garde rock opera *The Lubbock Lights*, composed and performed by the The Phantasmagoric Heavy Metal Vaudeville Troupe SKÜMBÁÀG. Performances of the opera will be presented as a 1940's radio broadcast and will simultaneously be recorded for a podcast.

All events are intended for an adult audience with strong language and mature themes.

ABOUT THE FACILITY:

As the one of the latest additions to the Valley's rapidly expanding cultural scene, the Center for the Performing Arts opened to great acclaim in October 2005. The fully-professional theatre is equipped for music, theater and dance productions plus film presentations. In addition, the lobby space serves as an art gallery. The multi-use facility houses student productions, touring acts and educational programs, and will be utilized for instructional purposes. The venue is outfitted with the latest technology and contains state-of-the-art lighting system, sound and audiovisual equipment, as well as an orchestra pit and seating that accommodates approximately 300 patrons.

The Center for the Performing Arts is conveniently located at 34th Street and Union Hills at the east end of the campus of Paradise Valley Community College in North Phoenix. Newly expanded parking is free. For additional information or reservations, please call 602.787.7738 or on the web at www.paradisevalley.edu/cpa.